

Councillor Annual Report 2015/16

Councillors Jon Collins, Sue Johnson, Dave Liversidge (St Ann's Ward)

1. Introduction

We are the ward Councillors for St Anns and have worked together since 2007. We are proud to represent St Ann's and its diverse community. We encourage residents to get in touch with any issues they may have, or alternatively visit us at one of our surgeries. Below is a breakdown of our backgrounds and current Council responsibilities.

Councillor Jon Collins

I have been a Councillor of St Ann's since 1987.

Councillor Sue Johnson

I have been a Councillor of St Ann's since 2007.

Councillor Dave Liversidge

I have been a Councillor of St Ann's since 1991.

2. Council Involvement

Councillor Collins

I am Leader of Nottingham City Council and Portfolio Holder for Strategic Regeneration, I also sit on the following committee's;

- Mapperley and St Ann's and Dales Area Committee (Area 6)
- City Centre Forum
- Executive Board - Chair
- Commissioning and Procurement Sub-Committee
- Appointments and Conditions of Service Committee
- Standards Committee
- The City of Nottingham and Nottinghamshire Economic Prosperity Committee

Councillor Johnson

I sit on the following committees;

- Mapperley and St Anns and Dales Area Committee (Area 6)
- Scrutiny Review Panel -Chair
- Corporate Parenting Board
- Licensing Committee
- Regulatory and Appeals Committee
- Overview and Scrutiny Committee

Councillor Liversidge

I sit on the following committee's;

- Mapperley and St Ann's and Dales Area Committee (Area 6)
- Appointments and Conditions of Service Committee (Chair)
- Health and Scrutiny Committee
- Licensing Committee
- Nottinghamshire and City of Nottingham Fire Authority

- City Centre Forum
- Regulatory and Appeals Committee

3. Community Involvement

We have held regular ward walks throughout the year where we have identified problems and listened to residents' opinions on issues in St Ann's. We have also started Councillor Tea and Cake events where we meet residents and allow them to voice their opinions whilst enjoying a slice of cake and a cup of tea.

4. Ward Work and Achievements

We held surgeries twice a week for constituents to try and help constituents with their problems. We have also visited people in their homes and businesses as required.

We work with community groups in the different neighbourhoods of St Ann's to improve the area they live in.

5. Use of Devolved Budgets

We have a small revenue and a small capital fund to help in the ward. This year it was spent as follows:-

Revenue

Resilience Food Banks
St Ann's Advice Group

Events

Christmas light switch on St Ann's and Sneinton
King Edward's Community Fun day
Nature Land Trip for Local Families
National Play day
St Ann's The Chase Luncheon Club – Christmas event
King Edward's Park Employment Fair

Groups

Afro Caribbean and Asian Forum – football team kit and equipment
KE Steps Room Hire Costs
Bright Ideas – Raggaerobics
Literacy Volunteers
St Ann's Allotment

Security

3G Cameras – Purchase, Licensing Fees and Management Cost

Capital

Larger Schemes

Robin Hood Chase public square
King Edward's Park Football Field
King Edward's Park Community Garden Fencing

Commuter Parking Prevention schemes

Barriers to Rodel Court

Beacon Hill Rise/Robin Hood Street Extended road safety measures associated with new zebra crossing
Residents Parking Scheme on Spalding and Windmill Lane Estates

Environmental Improvements

Hungerhill Road former subway walls

Alison Walk Meshing to stop rubbish being blown into gardens

The Chase/Abbotsford Drive Planters

Heather Close Hand rails

49-93 Luther Close fencing to create private gardens

Rear of Tulip Avenue Reinstatement of green space/install knee rail fencing

Hungerhill Road Resurfacing from Aster Road to Ransom Road

Ogden Court new security gates

Westville Gardens St Ann's landscaping and planters

Fencing Upgrade to:

Duncombe Close, Furze Gardens, Lotus Close, Luther Close, Massey Gardens, Rushworth Close, Thomas Close, Tulip Avenue, Wadhurst Gardens, Wasnidge Walk, Westminster Close, Westville Gardens, Windmill Close

6. Challenges

Next year we will continue to work to work closely with residents and businesses in St Anns but will be looking at how we can help St Ann's to get through austerity, including any brought on by Brexit.

Councillor Annual Report 2015/16

Names: Councillors Arnold, Norris, Woodings

1. Introduction

We were delighted to be re-elected as the councillors for Basford in May 2015. The best thing about the role is helping local people resolve their problems and delivering real improvements for Nottingham, and especially Basford, residents.

We've dealt with several hundred individual cases raised by Basford citizens over the last year. Common issues raised involve fly-tipping, parking problems, issues with trees not being cut back and property repairs. However we have had more extensive involvement in certain issues which are covered below.

Basford Ward covers Whitemoor, Heathfield, Highbury Vale, Stockhill and all bits in between!

2. Council Involvement

We undertake several different roles on various council committees. Councillor Woodings is on the Police & Crime Commissioner's (PCC) scrutiny panel, the planning committee and also the licensing and regulatory affairs committee. Councillor Norris is the portfolio holder for Adults & Health. Councillor Arnold chairs the Area committee, is the vice-chair of Planning and was Executive Assistant for Culture during the year that led to Nottingham receiving the City of Literature award.

3. Community Involvement

We'd like to thank all the local people who get involved in their local TRA or come to the Ward Forum meetings at Southwark School. We go to as many TRAs as we can and do regular ward walks, surgeries and knock on doors each weekend, but we can't be everywhere at once. The information we get at TRA meetings with local people is invaluable – please come along if you can.

4. Ward Work and Achievements

It has been a very busy year in Basford. Having been re-elected last May we had five key priorities:

- Work with the police to continue the reduction in crime and anti-social behaviour
- Work with the local community and other services in order to tackle the ongoing issues of dog mess and fly tipping by encouraging responsible dog ownership and promoting the free bulky waste collection service
- Produce an 'activities for young people' plan that means there are things for young people to do so that they reach their potential
- Continue to bring vacant and derelict sites back into use
- Hold surgeries in the ward at regular and convenient times and places, along with ward walks, every month, to bring the surgery to you

We have seen real progress in these areas. We are delighted to say that we have continued to see a reduction in both crime and anti-social behaviour both of which have reached their best levels since we have been keeping records.

Similarly, our cleanliness scores are the best they have been – despite cuts to Council services imposed by national Government. This has been due to an all-community approach to cleanliness.

This summer we produced our first daily planner for activities for young people. We now need to build on this so that we have a clear, productive year round offer for our young people.

Vacant and derelict sites still continue to be a thorny issue. We have seen a variety of different developments over the year but we are still to see sufficient progress at the derelict site by Basford Tram Stop and on the old Dyeworks site. These are our key focus.

We're proud to be active and available Councillors. As well as participating in all the TRAs in the ward, we also hold quarterly ward forums, monthly ward walks and surgeries on the first and third Saturday of each month.

Beyond our pledges there have been a series of local highlights, such as:

A campaign against a planning application by the High School for two astro-turf hockey pitches on the High School playing fields, adjacent to family homes.

Councillor Woodings has worked with local residents who are opposed to the plans, attended meetings with the school, written to all affected families, ensured the public consultation covered a sufficient area, arranged a community meeting and done interviews and press releases to ensure that residents' concerns have been heard.

The plans have been withdrawn twice for changes to be made (including removing 15 metre high floodlights) and we are waiting for another round of consultation on revised plans that we understand will propose changing the flood plain for the Daybrook.

It has been put to the High School that they could explore several other options for their plans.

Basford United FC

This year we've tried to resolve some of the issues for people living near the BUFC football ground. The success of Basford United is fantastic, but visitors to the ground have caused issues around parking, householders having their driveways blocked and littering. Actions taken so far include getting the club to communicate better with visiting clubs and fans regarding the availability of parking in the ground and requesting that visitors park considerately. We've also pushed for the swift transfer of nearby land over to the club to provide extra parking. New signs to better guide traffic leaving the site should soon be in place. This isn't sorted out yet but we continue to work on it.

Colson's

We've tried to work with the owners of Colson's to improve their site and how it is run. Regular information from local people has helped us enlist support from the Environment Agency (EA). Neighbours living near the site still regularly report issues such as dirt on the roads and pavements, noise early in the morning, smoke, dust and unpleasant smells, lorries parked on the pavement, boundary fencing splitting and piles of waste above the level of the fencing. There have been small improvements, but we will continue to press both Colsons and the EA for improvements on the site to minimise disruption to the lives of local people.

River Leen Clean-Up

Following a ward walk a major clean-up of the banks of the River Leen took place in April 2016. Our thanks go to the two local people who have agreed to keep a look-out for more fly-tips and offered to help regularly with collecting smaller pieces of litter. We're also really pleased that the signets hatched successfully this year.

New playgrounds and facilities

It was a huge pleasure to see the opening of two new playgrounds, one at Stockhill Park, one at Brooklyn Park. There are also newly covered tennis courts at Vernon Park and there'll soon be outdoor gym equipment at Stockhill. We've helped fund and organise the

Summer Fun Days at each of these parks and we're delighted with the Green Flag awards for these outstanding facilities.

Basford Hall College

The new college at Basford Hall was opened this year, providing superb opportunities for young people to get skills and training.

Clean for the Queen

Councillors Alex Norris and Linda Woodings were joined by students from Basford Hall College and the SALTAR volunteers on Clean for the Queen day where they litter picked around the edge of Stockhill Park, picking up 15 bags of rubbish by the end of the session. Future plans are to provide a board along the bottom of the fence to stop litter from blowing in off the pavement.

Food for Life

We've helped pay for planters for Heathfield Primary school so that they can grow their own fruit and vegetables for the Food for Life project. Councillor Linda Woodings visited the school and had a healthy lunch with some of the students involved in the project, who were very keen to start growing their own fruit and vegetables.

New Heathfield School site

We were very pleased with the opening of the new Heathfield Primary school site at Kersall Drive. This is a fantastic new school building delivering much needed extra school spaces in the ward.

Other activities

Councillor Woodings went on a National Citizens Service panel and was grilled for an hour by young people doing the 2-week course. She also gave a speech at the vigil for the victims of terrorist attacks in December. All three councillors have spoken regularly in the council chamber. Councillor Arnold presented Literacy Awards to Basford schoolchildren.

We're here for you

We have knocked on hundreds of your doors in the past 12 months and we're always here to help you. So please don't hesitate to contact us if you need to.

5. Use of Devolved Budgets

We have devolved responsibility over a small amount of revenue funding to help local groups. This has been spent in the following way so far this year:

Allocated Schemes: Basford Ward	Amount (total)
Basford Library Notice Board	£1,500
Zodiac All Stars Carnival Troupe	£500
Boots Linear Netball Club	£400
Heathfield School Food for Life Planters	£250
Basford Road Baptist Church Community Room Imps	£1,000
Highbury Vale Christmas Playscheme and Party	£500
HVTRA Brooklyn Park Playground Opening Event	£500
Literacy Club Volunteers	£340
Nottingham Carnival	£290
Highbury Vale planting on Brayton Crescent Phase 2	£450
Notice board for Bagthorpe allotments	£300
NCC Lincoln Street Scouts Hut Area Clean	£500

Up	
Music Hub	£240
Basford School Book Vouchers	£5,195

We also have devolved responsibility for a fund to improve the local environment and highway services. This has been spent in the following way so far this year:

Heatherley Drive	Footpaths	£55,663
Runton Drive	Footpaths	£337
Bracknell Crescent/Hayling Drive	TRO	£7,000
Park Lane	Bollards	£3,000
Greenwich Avenue	Signage	£1,000
Mill Street Playing field	Litter bins	£3,000
Runton Drive	Footpaths	£13,702
Selwyn Close	Area improvement	£4,250
Basford Ward trees	Tree works	£5,000

Annual Report 2015/16– Councillor Alan Clark



I am the regular Chair of the Consultation meeting for the Bulwell Forest North Local Action Group that works with Police and Community Protection with local residents to address issues of local concern. I also attend the regular meeting for the Bulwell Forest South Police Beat at Colin Broughton Court.



I was pleased to visit (with Councillor Eunice Campbell) the new Southglade Food Park Phase 2 that was developed using European Union funding. This was an opportunity for local residents to see the development before its super-hygienic uses began.

With Eunice, I led a session with pupils from Top Valley Academy during European Local Democracy Week in October. Pupils looked at the hard decisions that have to be made to choose priorities with a limited budget.

I am pleased that a consultation has been launched on the creation of a Bulwell Town Conservation Area. Recent work has also been carried out to clear the site where self-seeded trees were obscuring the view of our wonderful Bulwell St Mary's Church.

I have been writing to local residents to warn them about the presence of rogue traders in the area. I am also concerned about the closure of St Mary's Surgery in Top Valley.

With Eunice Campbell, I have met regularly with the Area Police Inspector at Bulwell Police Station to discuss issues of concern in the area.

Eunice and I were pleased to present the certificates at Stanstead Primary School in July when they held an Energy Awareness Week.



I am a regular attendee at Rise Park Action Group and Top Valley Tenants' and Residents' Group at which I always give a councillor update.

Other regular events I attended included:

Southglade Park Live! In July that was sponsored from the Councillors' Ward Budget.



Our Lady Summer Fair, with Eunice

Fun on the Forest in September, at which I promoted Robin Hood Energy, the City Council's not-for-profit gas and electricity supply company. Fun on the Forest was sponsored from the Councillors' Ward Budget.



Budget Consultation at Bulwell Riverside in January



And I chaired the Leader Listens Event at Bulwell Riverside in October

Volunteers from Bulwell Forest Ward were recognised at a ceremony at the Council House and at a special tea party with the Lord Mayor in April.



The Ward Budget was also used this year to support Bulwell Forest Garden, Rise Park Football Club, Christmas Lights (Bulwell and Rise Park), a pool table for young people at Bulwell United Reformed Church, a play scheme at Mellish, Brownies and Bulwell Forest Football Club.

In the coming year, Eunice, Nick and I want to hear your views as we continue our work for our area of Bulwell Forest Ward. When you see us at events, delivering our literature or even at the shops, please have a word with us.

Councillor Annual Report 2015/16

Name: Councillor Jane Urquhart

1. Introduction

I have been proud to represent Sherwood on the City Council since being elected in 2003. I live in the ward and love the diversity of people, environments and creative projects that make Sherwood such a fascinating place. My children love growing up in Sherwood, and both attended Carrington Primary school. We enjoy using Sherwood's great selection of local shops, cafes, restaurants and open spaces together in our spare time. I am a cyclist, using my bike for my regular commute to work (I work for the National Probation service) and I also love swimming, trying to use our city pools a couple of times a week to keep fit.

2. Council Involvement

I am part of the council's Executive and I have responsibility for Housing and Planning. I am responsible for delivering on our commitment to build 2,500 homes that Nottingham people can afford to rent or buy, and for our pledge to improve the quality of both Private Rented housing in the City and Housing Association homes. I am working on plans to build Council homes as well as enable private development and on driving out Rogue Landlords through tougher regulation and enforcement as well as bringing all of the social landlords in the city together to agree on a Nottingham standard for housing and environmental quality.

I also have responsibility for Nottingham City Homes (NCH), making sure that they deliver high quality housing, repairs and a good environment for people to live in. NCH is looking to develop its work and, in addition to the council housing that it manages, to begin to provide homes for private rental too.

In Planning, I have responsibility for Nottingham's strategic Planning Policies, and for making sure that our development management service works well, making it simple to navigate and making sure that whether you are an individual wanting to make an addition to your home or a big developer everyone gets a good service. Making sure that our planning system enables good quality sustainable development and investment is really important for attracting jobs to our city so that our economy can thrive, so having a planning department that is run well is a priority for me.

I am also the council's representative on the local and regional committees that deal with Flooding, and have responsibility for Nottingham's role as a Lead local Flood Authority. This means that I work with the other organisations, Severn Trent and the Environment Agency, to make sure that in Nottingham we are doing what we can to reduce flood risk and improve our river environments.

3. Community Involvement

Along with my 2 councillor colleagues, Brian and Alex, I regularly attend local residents' associations and groups, including Carrington Tenants and Residents Association, Edwards Lane Tenants and Residents Association and the newly emerging Central Sherwood Tenants and Residents Association.

I am a regular user of local Council and community facilities including our excellent public transport links into Nottingham, our lovely parks and Sherwood's great local shops.

4. Ward Work and Achievements

The three Sherwood Councillors operate a regular programme of surgeries: 7pm on the first Tuesday at Sherwood Community Centre and by the little Co-Op on Sherwood High Street at 10.30am on the third Saturday continue to be popular with a wide variety of issues being raised – please do come along if you need to talk to us.

We also continue to participate in local tenants' and residents' groups where invited including Edwards Lane, Carrington and Winchester/Woodthorpe. The discussions at these meetings are always taken into account when making decisions about our priorities for spending money or supporting projects.

We are considering broadening the number of locations where we hold surgeries in the coming year, including the Edwards Lane Estate. If you have any ideas of where it might be desirable to hold a surgery then please let one of us know.

We also regularly conduct informal "ward walks" around the patch, giving residents a chance to pop out and have a chat with us and for us to spot any issues or problems that might be occurring. It has been great to have support from police and council officers on these walks, making sure that we are joined up across the board. You can contact us through the usual email and phone channels and also connect on Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/mysherwood> and Twitter at <https://twitter.com/SherwoodNottm>.

This past year, we are most proud of the following achievements – just a sample of some of the things that residents have raised with us or we have identified as priorities for the area.

Trees: Recognising the importance that the green spaces in Sherwood hold for the residents of the area, we have worked hard to plant new trees and tackle the problems of "the wrong tree in the wrong place". We have also secured additional funding from the council and Nottingham City Homes to allow for a larger programme of tree planting in the autumn. We have also been happy to support the Nottingham In Bloom programme to ensure that there are planters lining Mansfield Road and other locations within the ward.

Sherwood Market: The regular marketplace on Sherwood high street needed a little boost and so we are happy to have supported some of the traders with a small sum of money to support marketing and also agreed with a rescheduling of the market day to avoid a clash with other markets in other parts of the city.

"Swift Street": A local resident in the Church Drive area approached us with the lovely idea of installing some bird boxes to house migrating Swifts – we were happy to enable this idea to come alive with money and also practical support in kind. It was great to see the swifts flitting in and out of the boxes in the spring this year.

Sherwood Prison: an ongoing problem of drugs and mobile phones being thrown over the wall of the prison from around the Gunthorpe Drive area has been much improved by collaboration with the police and community protection to install various new features to prevent this activity.

Parks: The play equipment in the two main neighbourhood parks in the ward (Pirate Park and Peggy's Park) were both in need of refreshing and we were pleased this year that a long period of accumulating funding and drawing up plans finally came to fruition with both parks now featuring brand new and improved equipment and green spaces. Both these parks have had "fun days" and picnics organised by our local Neighbourhood Development Officers in the recent year.

Parking and Traffic: Given the nature of the Victorian/Edwardian housing and road network in much of central Sherwood, inconsiderate parking and unacceptable speed has been a long standing problem. We are pleased that there is a potential for a community speed watch group to be set up in central Sherwood and have recently ensured that a number of white "stop" lines have been refreshed and yellow "no parking" lines have been installed in new locations.

Youth Activities: We have been happy to support activities for young people at the Edwards Lane Community Centre including funding holiday play schemes and sporting events.

5. Learning and Development

Having been a councillor for some years, I have tried to keep up to date with new developments and have taken opportunities to learn. I have also taken advantage of the extensive training programme provided by the Council including training in Child and Adult Safeguarding. I have also taken opportunities to learn about the Environment Agency and its work, and have gained knowledge about Housing through attendance at events and seminars.

This year I have supported new Councillors as they joined the Council after the May 2015 elections, having delivered briefings and other sessions for them.

6. Use of Devolved Budgets

These are covered in the activities described above.

7. Challenges

The challenge of providing the level of council services residents expect in the face of budget cuts from central government continues unabated. We will always strive to reduce the impact of these cuts as much as possible and where this is unavoidable we always aim to ensure that the most vulnerable in society are impacted as little as possible. We are concerned about the impact on Nottingham of an exit from the EU – the funding that the EU delivers for the City will be extremely hard to replace and will impact on the most deprived in our communities.

Councillor Annual Report 2015/16

Andrew Rule

1. Introduction

I was elected to Nottingham City Council in May 2015 representing the ward of Clifton North which includes areas of Clifton, Wilford and Silverdale. I have lived in the ward for over 6 years and care passionately about it.

It is a huge privilege to represent the ward and I feel that the understanding I have of the area from living within it enhances my ability to put forward the views of residents in Clifton North.

In addition as a member of the Opposition Group on the Council I have the responsibility to scrutinising decisions taken by the Council's Executive and have taken part as a panel member of two call-in panels over the last year. I have additionally questioned portfolio holders at Full Council in relation to the following areas directly applicable to Clifton North:

- The completion of tram works in the ward and whether penalty payments from its late completion could be utilised to fund road repairs to diversionary roads used by construction traffic;
- The closure of the Laura Chamber's Nursing Home;
- What ward councillors in Clifton North could do to ensure that council owned properties were included in the City Council's solar panel expansion programme.

2. Council Involvement

Group Treasurer of Conservative Group

Member of Area 8 Committee

Member of Audit Committee

Member of Planning Committee

Member of Trusts and Charities Committee

Reserve member of Regulatory & Appeals Committee

3. Community Involvement

I attend the following outside bodies and community groups:

Clifton Community Group

NG11 Foodbank

Wilford Community Group

Iremongers Pond Association

Silverdale Community Association

Silverdale Local Action Group

4. Ward Work and Achievements

Throughout the year I have undertaken a number of pieces of casework across all areas within the ward. The topics have been varied and include:

- Liaising with colleagues in NET to log and finding solutions to a number of snagging issues with the tram line in all areas of the Ward;
- Working with the community protection and police beat teams to respond to a spate of vehicle thefts at the start of year in Silverdale and Wilford;
- Meeting regularly with Town Centre Coordinator in Clifton to review progress of the regeneration of Clifton's Town Centre;
- Meeting with residents to look at concerns regarding the condition and ongoing maintenance of the boundary with the A453 at Clifton Grove.

- Forwarding residents concerns in relation to problem trees in the ward to ensure they were included in the city-wide tree improvement programme
- Supporting and attending community events in the Ward;

I hold surgeries **every** month in all three areas within Clifton North:

- 2nd Sunday of month from 12:00 to 1:30pm at Wilford Social & Bowls Club, 55 Main Road, Wilford
- 3rd Wednesday of the month from 6.15pm to 7.45 pm at the Silverdale Community Centre, The Downs, Silverdale
- 3rd Sunday of the month from 11:30 am till 1:00 pm at the Clifton Community Centre, Southchurch Drive, Clifton

I have been allocated 4 ward walks with council officers which have covered areas in Wilford, Silverdale and Clifton but will be supplementing these over the next year with “roving” surgeries with the aim of covering each street in the ward twice over the calendar year.

5. Learning and Development

I have undertaken a number of internal courses to assist me in developing my skills to be a councillor and to increase my understanding of the various departments and processes available to me as a member of the opposition group on the council.

I have used the information gained from these courses to enable me to scrutinise the decision making process within the Council.

6. Use of Devolved Budgets

I have approved financial support to the following schemes from my ward allocation to support the following projects:

- Family Community Team Summer Programme
- The Old School in Wilford
- Literacy Volunteers Programme
- Wilford Church Luncheon Club
- Clifton 1st Scouts Group
- Wilford Community Event: May Day
- Children’s Bonfire at Wilford Village Bonfire Event
- Nottingham Music School
- Floral Display in Wilford Village
- Wilford Community Event: Queen’s 90th Birthday Celebration

I welcome funding applications for projects by groups from all areas of the ward.

In addition I have supported funding for the following projects from the Area Capital Fund:

- Tree works throughout Ward
- Village green protection in Wilford
- Footpath repairs in Clifton Grove
- Parking restrictions in Clifton Estate
- Investigation into installation of a right filter light in Wilford Village
- Replacement of school signage throughout the ward
- Reinstatement of footpaths at Fairham Brook

7. Challenges

The allocation of area capital budgets is and will doubtless continue to be a significant challenge over the coming years with Clifton North’s allocation being one

of the lowest in the City to meet the costs of the various schemes that have been shortlisted for councillor consideration.

Over the past year my employment arrangements have meant that it is has sometimes proved a personal challenge to attend all the community group meetings that take place in the Ward, in particular the Silverdale Community Association, this is something I will work to resolve over the next year.